



Coding Victim Offender Relationship “Stranger” and “Unknown”

Unknown Relationship

If the relationship is unknown between the victim and the offender, it should be coded as unknown “99”. The relationship may be considered unknown for several reasons:

- The offender is masked and the victim cannot identify them as someone they do or do not know.
- It is very dark outside.
- The victim’s face was covered.

If it is revealed later that the victim did know the offender, the victim-to-offender relationship code should be updated at that time.

Stranger

A stranger is defined as someone you are not acquainted with. If the victim knows that the offender is a stranger, it should be coded as stranger “98”.